

FEB 25 1999

Dr. Michael F. Jacobson
Executive Director
Center for Science in the Public Interest
1875 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 300
Washington, DC 20009-5728

5569 '99 MAR -1 P1:39

Re: Docket No. 98P-0724/CP1

Dear Dr. Jacobson:

This letter is in response to the citizen petition you submitted dated August 24, 1998, which, among other things, requests the specific listing of the color additives carmine and cochineal extract on the label of all foods, cosmetics, and drugs.

The purpose of this response is to advise you, in accordance with 21 CFR 10.30 (e), that we have been unable to reach a decision on your petition within 180 days of the filing of the petition because of the limited availability of resources and other agency priorities.

Sincerely yours,

Alan M. Rulis, Ph.D.
Director
Office of Premarket Approval
Center for Food Safety
and Applied Nutrition

Cc: HFS-100 (Bailey) HFS-215 HFS-106 (Waleski) HFS-226
HFS-125 (Dennis) HFS-247 HFA-305 (Docket No. 98P-07241 CP1)
CAP 8Z0265

Drafted: MWaleski:HFS-106:2/9/99
Init'd: DADennis:HFS-125:2/10/99
ALLipman:HFS-215:2/11/99
ECColeman:HFS-215:2/11/99
LMTarantino:HFS-200:2/18/99
F/T:HFS-215:ign:2/23/99

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